GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4747
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2002
REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES
C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of refugees from different countries particularly from Pakistan awaiting repatriation to their respective countries of origin;

(b) whether there have been repatriation of some refugees during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof, country-wise; and

(d) the steps taken during the last three years to ensure repatriation of these refugees and the results thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a): The number of foreigners who have sought refuge in India is given below. Of these, only Srilankans and Tibetans are referred to as Refugees:

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Srilankans  : 64,254
Tibetans  : 83,376
Afghans   : 11,753
Bangladeshis  : 38,299
Myanmmarese  : 419
Iranians  : 57
Iraqi   : 3
Malaysian  : 2


          1,98,163


  Total :   (As on 31.12.2001)
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(b), (c) & (d): There is no organised repatriation of such persons to their respective countries. They are free to leave for any other country of their choice at any time but as and when conditions improve in their home countries, they are encouraged to return.